



Workshop on Levee/Vegetation Issues

Wednesday, April 4, 2012
Registration: 8:00 AM
Workshop: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

University of Washington-Tacoma
William W. Phillip Hall- 2nd Floor
1918 Pacific Ave., Tacoma WA

Detailed Agenda

Meeting purpose and objectives: The purposes of this workshop are to provide levee sponsors and other affected parties an opportunity to learn more about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's (USACE) new policies on the management of vegetation on levees, and to engage in a regional dialogue about the implications of these policies for meeting the objectives of safe levees, habitat for salmon recovery, and cost-effective levee management.

Morning Session

8:00 Registration/coffee

8:30 Welcome/introductions

- Dr. Joel Baker, University of Washington - Tacoma
- Gerry O' Keefe, Puget Sound Partnership
- Senator Patty Murray (taped message)
- Jim Waldo & Lara Fowler, Facilitators

8:45 Background/context

- David St. John, Puget Sound Partnership

9:00 Introductions/overview of federal policy

- Brig. General John McMahon, USACE, Northwestern Division
- Karen Durham- Aguilera, SES, HQ-USACE, Director of Contingency Operations and Office of Homeland Security

System Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF)

- Initial Thoughts on Implementation
 - Colonel Bruce Estok, USACE, Seattle District
 - Lt. Colonel David Caldwell, USACE, Walla Walla District
- Questions/ answers

10:00 Break

10:15 Draft Policy Guidance Letter (PGL)

- Feb. 2012 Draft PGL
- Questions/ answers
- Next steps/ comment period

11:15 Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) research on levee/vegetation issues

11:45 Lunch Break (on your own)

Afternoon session:

- 1:00 Local sponsor perspective
- Introductory remarks- Dow Constantine, King County Executive
 - Overview
 - o Tom Bean, King County
 - o Paula Cooper, Whatcom County
 - o Tony Fantello or Lorin Reinelt, Pierce County
 - Discussion
- 1:45 Tribal perspective
- Overview
 - o Richard Reich, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
 - o Stan Walsh, Skagit River System Cooperative
 - o Jim Weber, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
 - Discussion
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Fisheries/environmental perspective
- Overview
 - o Steve Landino, NOAA Fisheries
 - o David Price, Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
 - o Bill Zachmann, Washington Dept. of Ecology
 - o Michael Garrity, American Rivers
 - Discussion
- 3:30 Facilitated discussion- Jim Waldo, Lara Fowler
- How would the PGL/SWIF policies work for the Puget Sound area?
 - What concerns/ issues remain?
 - Would sponsors use these policies, or what changes would encourage sponsors to use these options?
- 4:15 Recap/ summary- Jim Waldo
- 4:30 Adjourn